



* * Nomination Form * *

2022 Recognition for Excellence in Supporting Special Education

DEADLINE: Midnight, Friday, March 25, 2022

Our teachers, staff, and students are our everyday heroes. These individuals go above and beyond to foster meaningful inclusion that promotes adaptability, creativity, disability awareness, acceptance, and peer to peer interactions for our students with disabilities.

General Instructions and Guidance for Submitting a Strong Nomination

Each nomination should reflect **at least** one of the criteria listed below for the relevant nominee category (e.g. educator/staff, student/peer, group/team, program, parent, and community). Nomination statements should describe specific examples of how the nominee has demonstrated and implemented the outstanding quality or qualities that are deemed to be exemplary, exceptional and above and beyond what is expected given the nominee's role to be meaningfully inclusive. Nominations that restate the criteria without giving concrete examples will not be considered.

- A. **Educator/Staff (includes teacher assistants, therapists, related services, administrators, etc.):** Any educator, support staff or administrator who has provided innovative or consistently outstanding services to advance the success of LCPS special education students in at least one of the following ways:
1. Demonstrates a special education or training accomplishment *that is beyond the requirements of their job description*, such as:
 - Outstanding passion and commitment to the field of special education (provide examples)
 - Providing school leadership in developing or carrying out instructional or social practices to promote achievement and meaningful participation of special education students
 - Exceptional teaching practices in the classrooms (virtual and physical settings in special education or general education) which enable achievement and **meaningful participation** of special education students (e.g., classroom organization, differentiated instruction, the use of Universal Design for Learning, instructional accommodation, peer helping strategies, social skills development, management of behavior)
 - Ability to use a range of approaches to learning and use creative and innovative ways to arouse curiosity, challenge students' thinking and actively engage them in learning
 2. Provides outstanding support for special education at the administrator level through the school's policies and practices that:
 - Creates a culture of valuing, sharing and celebrating special education within the school community
 - Ensures that all students, including students with disabilities, are encouraged and welcomed in all before and after school activities, and have the support and other means to make this participation accessible and a good experience for all.
- B. **Student/Peer or Group/Team:** An LCPS student who has made an outstanding contribution to school objectives, programs or activities in one or more of the following ways:

1. Actively participates in school programs that increase peer acceptance, involvement and support of individual differences.
 2. Demonstrates leadership in student activities to promote a spirit of caring, belonging and cooperation among the student body that involves students with disabilities as equal and valuable participants in the daily life of the school.
- C. **Program:** A school-based program that has demonstrated outstanding results in promoting success of special education students through the cooperative efforts of school administration, general staff, special education staff, parents and students.
- D. **Parent:** A volunteer or other parent who has made an outstanding contribution to the LCPS special education community in one or more of the following ways:
1. Dissemination of valuable, accurate and reliable information to staff and/or parents that improves the educational environment for all students with disabilities.
 2. Planning and conducting staff or parent training programs.
 3. Providing support to school programs by organizing volunteers or providing direct in-school assistance.
 4. Providing support to parents through participation in group meetings, PTO/PTA functions or other relevant community events.
 5. Effective advocacy for advancements in special education services, for the diverse needs of special education students, for increased access and inclusion of special education services and/or for parents navigating the special education process.
- E. **Community:** An individual, member or business in the surrounding or business community that provides unique support, advocacy and assistance to students and families with disabilities that:
1. Enhances the student's access to school-based educational and social experiences.
 2. Promotes acceptance, integration and celebration of students with differences.
 3. Gives students with disabilities opportunities to be in front and in leadership and other visible roles in ways that highlight the student's strengths and talents to the entire community.

NOMINATION

Please use the form in the link or QR code below to send us your nomination:

<https://forms.gle/28zeQBJTKv1jCi2e8>



If you are having difficulty accessing the Nomination Form using the link or QR code above, please contact Shehnaz Khan, SEAC Vice Chair of Planning. (SEACViceChairPlanning@lcps.org)

(Optional): You may send up to 5 photos and/or a short video that helps illustrate the excellence described above. You can upload the photos/video directly into the nomination form or send the photos/video directly to Shehnaz Khan, SEAC Vice Chair of Planning at seacvicechairplanning@lcps.org and clearly indicate the name of the nominee to which your photos/video apply.

Note that photos and videos are **not expected or necessary for your nomination to be given full and serious consideration. Photos and/or videos will only be viewed by the SEAC awards committee in the context of evaluating this nomination. Should your nominee be selected as an award recipient, we may ask permission to use your photos and/or video during the awards ceremony.*

Be sure to hit the “submit” button by the deadline. Nominations may not be edited once they are submitted. Nominations submitted after the deadline will not be reviewed or considered. Nominations will be reviewed, and award recipients will be selected by SEAC. SEAC will **not** notify all nominees of their nomination, though nominators are free to share their nomination/statement with the nominee.

Winners will be notified by SEAC by the end of April, 2022.

THANK YOU for taking the time to make a nomination and for your effort to support and increase excellence in special education throughout LCPS.